

**REMARKS**

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-5, 7-11, 14-17, and 20-25 are pending. Claim 6 is cancelled herein without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claims 12, 13, 18, and 19 were previously cancelled. Claims 1, 5, 20, and 21 are amended. Claims 1 and 20 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

**Reasons for Entry of Amendments**

At the outset, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered into the Official File in view of the fact that the Applicant believes that the rejections of independent claims 1 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 103(a) made by the Examiner are not proper, and the amendments to the claims in this Amendment place the application in condition for allowance.

In the alternative, if the Examiner does not agree that this application is in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered for the purpose of appeal. The Amendments to claims 1 and 20 reduce the issues on appeal by overcoming the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. This Amendment was not presented at an earlier date in view of the fact that the Examiner has cited additional references in this Final Office Action.

**Suggestions by Examiner of Allowable Subject Matter**

On page 6, lines 19-21 of the Office Action, the Examiner suggests that the rejection of claims 5, 6, and 21-24 may be overcome by claiming the process for acquiring the three-dimensional geometry parameters in greater detail. The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's suggestions of allowable subject matter.

As noted below, dependent claims 5 and 21 have been amended, and independent claim 25 has been added to incorporate the subject matter that the Examiner suggests will overcome the rejection.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph**

Claims 20-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance the prosecution of the present invention, independent claim 20 is amended herein to recite a combination of steps in an electronic data management method, including *inter alia* the steps of

determining in the first computer system whether or not one or both of the copied electronic drawing data received from the second computer system and recopied electronic drawing data outputted from the first computer system have been altered by comparing the reference characteristic value with the comparison object original value.

In addition, independent claim 1 is amended herein to recite a combination of elements in an electronic data management system, including *inter alia*

determining means for determining authenticity of the copied electronic data from the second computer system and the recopied electronic data from the first computer system by comparing the reference characteristic value and the comparison subject characteristic value.

As can be clearly understood from claims 1 and 20 of the present invention, the first computer system (the management computer system) outputs the original electronic drawing data affixed with a reference characteristic value from the first computer system to the second computer system,

the second computer system (the managed computer system) generates the copied electronic data attached with a reference characteristic value and transmits it back to the first computer, and

the first computer system (the management computer system) calculates a comparison subject characteristic value from the copied electronic data from the second computer system and the recopied electronic data from the original electronic data from the first computer system; and then determines authenticity of the copied electronic data and the recopied electronic data by comparing the reference characteristic value and the comparison subject characteristic value.

The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 20, as amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph are respectfully requested.

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a)**

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9-11, 14-17, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Houser et al. (U.S. 5,606,609);

claims 1-4, 7-11, 14-17, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moore (U.S. 6,246,778) in view of Houser et al. and further in view of Smith et al. (U.S. 6,052,669); and

claims 5, 6, and 21-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moore in view of Houser et al, and further in view of Schwab et al. (U.S. 2002/0019777.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

**Rejection of Independent Claim 1 based on Houser et al.**

In contrast to claim 1 of the present invention, as can be seen in Houser et al. FIG. 1, the Abstract, and column 7, lines 61-65, this document merely discloses disclose the computer 140 receiving and verifying the document from computer 120, after computer 120 embeds the security objects into the document.

However, Houser et al. is completely different from the invention set forth in each of independent claim 1, in which the

the first computer system (the management computer system) calculates a comparison subject characteristic value from the copied electronic data from the second computer system and recopied electronic data from the original electronic data from the first computer system; and then determines authenticity of the copied electronic data and the recopied electronic data by comparing the reference characteristic value and the comparison subject characteristic value.

Neither computer 120 nor computer 140 of Houser et al. include each and every element as set forth in claim 1 of the present invention. While the Examiner's rejection based on Houser et al. is not specific, the Applicants assume that the Examiner believes that Houser et al. computer 140 teaches the first computer system of the present invention. However, nowhere in the Houser et al. disclosure is there any hint that computer 140 includes "determining means for determining authenticity of the copied electronic data from the second computer system and the recopied electronic data from the first computer system by comparing the reference characteristic value and the comparison subject characteristic value" as set forth in claim 1 of the present invention.

**Rejection of Independent Claims 1 and 20 based on Moore, Houser et al, and Smith et al.**

As best understood by the Applicant, Moore merely discloses a system for marking goods for authentication and tracking in a distribution path using field computers referencing

data in a host computer. The Examiner concedes that Moore does not disclose the exact algorithm by which authentication is performed.

While the Examiner's rejection of claims 1 and 20 based on Houser et al, Moore and smith et al. is not specific, the Applicants assume that the Examiner believes that Houser et al. computer 140 teaches the first computer system of the present invention. However, nowhere in the Houser et al. disclosure is there any hint that computer 140 includes "determining means for determining authenticity of the copied electronic data from the second computer system and the recopied electronic data from the first computer system by comparing the reference characteristic value and the comparison subject characteristic value" as set forth in claims 1 and 20 of the present invention.

Smith et al. is merely cited in the rejection claims 7 and 8, but this document merely discloses a CAD system.

While Schwab et al. was not used to reject either of claims 1 and 20, a careful review of these document indicates that no combination of Schwab et al. can make up for the deficiencies of Moore, Houser et al., and Smith et al.

In the rejection of claims 5, 6, and 21-24, the Examiner concedes that Moore and Houser do not disclose three-dimensional geometry of a manufactured product.

Thus, Schwab et al. is combined with Moore and Houser et al. to reject claims 5, 6, and 21-24. However, this document merely discloses a merchandise return system wherein physical descriptions are used as a parameter.

At least for the reasons set forth above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of elements/method steps as set forth in each of independent claims 1 and 20 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Houser et al., Moore and Smith et al.

**Added Independent Claim 25**

The Examiner will note that new independent claim 25 is added to combine the subject matter of previous independent claim 1 and dependent claim 5 as amended herein, to include subject that the Examiner suggests (page 6, lines 19-21 of the Office Action) may overcome the rejection of claims 5.

Therefore, independent claims 1, 20, and 25 are in condition for allowance.

**Dependent Claims**

The Examiner will note dependent claims 5 and 21 are amended so that each includes subject that the Examiner suggests (page 6, lines 19-21 of the Office Action) may overcome the rejection of claims 5 and 21.

All dependent claims are in condition for allowance due to their dependency from allowable independent claims, or due to the additional novel features set forth therein.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) are respectfully requested.

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Art Unit: 2134  
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### CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject claims, but merely to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

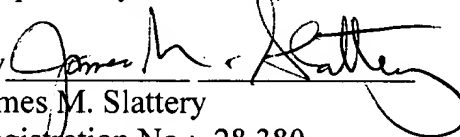
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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